

Application No.: 10/572,604

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-453

IN THE DRAWINGS

Drawing FIGs. 1-3 have been amended to include the legend
"PRIOR ART."

Attachment: Replacement Sheets of drawing FIGs. 1-3

REMARKS

Claims 4-6 and 9-10 have been amended. Claims 1-9 are pending.

The Abstract has been amended to reduce the number of words to between 50 and 150 words. Accordingly, the Examiner's objection to the Abstract has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The specification has been amended to improve the form of the application.

Drawings FIGs. 1-3 have been amended to include the legend "PRIOR ART" as requested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the Examiner's objection to the drawings has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The Examiner's statement that claims 1-3 include allowable subject matter is acknowledged.

Claims 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ("Section 112"), second paragraph, for being indefinite because, although "claim 6 calls for a signal processing, [] the claim body recites a process." (Office Action, at pg. 5, paragraph 10). Referring to independent claim 6, it is respectfully submitted that the main body of claim 6 recites the elements (units) of the claimed signal processing apparatus, namely, "a luminance and color difference signal converting unit," "a characteristic converting unit," "a primary color converting unit," and "a correcting unit." The preamble of claim 6 recites characteristics of signals, such as a luminance signal and color difference signals, on which the "units" of the claimed signal processing apparatus are for operating. Claim 6 has been amended to clarify that the luminance signal and color difference signals are signals that "have been obtained" and that the "converting . . ." terminology in the claim sets forth how the luminance signal and color difference signals have been

obtained. Accordingly, the Section 112 rejections of claim 6, and claims 7-8 which depend from claim 6, have been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 4-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Independent claims 5 and 10 have been amended, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, to claim a program "on a computer-readable medium and executable by a computer for enabling the computer to perform a signal processing process" (See specification, for example, at pg. 60, ln. 24-pg. 62, ln. 13 and FIG. 17). In addition, independent method claims 4 and 9 have been amended to recite that the steps of the claimed method are performed by a processor of a signal processing apparatus. (See specification, for example, pg. 44, ln. 11-pg. 55, ln. 18 and FIGS. 12-15). As to claim 6, for the reasons set forth above in the discussion of the Section 112 rejections, it is respectfully submitted that claim 6 is directed to a signal processing apparatus, such that the Section 101 rejection of claim 6 being directed to a non-statutory process is not proper. Accordingly, based on the amendments to claims 4-10, the Section 101 rejections have been overcome and should be withdrawn.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

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Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-453

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: May 18, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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